

Project Fact Sheet

Project

Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA)

Purpose

The purpose of the project is to reduce damages due to rainfall flooding in Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Tammany Parishes.

Location

The proposed work is located on both the east and west banks of the Mississippi River in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. In Jefferson, work is limited to the more densely populated northern portion of the parish. St. Tammany Parish work is located in and around the communities of Slidell, Mandeville, Covington, Madisonville, Abita Springs, and Lacombe.

Benefit to the Community

Improvements in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes support the parishes' master drainage plans and generally provide flood protection on a level associated with a ten-year rainfall event, while also reducing damages for larger events.

Features

In Orleans Parish, plans involve improving twelve major drainage lines, adding pumping capacity to one pump station, and constructing two new pump stations. In Jefferson Parish, plans include improvements to about twenty-four drainage canals, additional pumping capacity for four pump stations, and the construction of two new pump stations. Planned improvements in St. Tammany Parish include channel enlargements, bridge replacements, detention ponds, levees, and elevation of flood-prone structures. A substantial amount of this work has been completed in Jefferson and Orleans Parishes; no construction has been done yet in St. Tammany.

Sponsors

Jefferson Parish Government http://www.jeffparish.net/index.cfm?DocID=1162

Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans http://www.swbno.org/selaprojectbyproject.html

Preliminary investigations in St. Tammany Parish were done with various municipalities; however, St. Tammany Parish Government has expressed an interest in acting as the cost-sharing partner for the entire parish.

http://www.stpgov.org/

Status

In Jefferson Parish, 41 contracts have been awarded to date, with 31 completed. In Orleans Parish, nine contracts have been awarded, with eight having been completed. Overall, the currently scheduled work in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes is about 60 percent complete and should be finished in 2016, if funding is made available. The St. Tammany work is still unscheduled. The Corps is working with the parish administration to complete a study of the W-14 watershed in Slidell and to develop a plan for a parishwide study.

Authority

1996 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), Section 533 Fiscal Year 1996 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, Section 108